

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides caspase recruitment domain (CARD)-containing polypeptides and functional
5 fragments thereof, encoding nucleic acid molecules, and
specific antibodies. Also provided are screening methods
for identifying CARD-associated polypeptides (CAPs), and
for identifying agents that alter the association of a
CARD-containing polypeptide with itself or with a CAP.
10 Further provided are methods of altering a biochemical
process modulated by a CARD-containing polypeptide, and
methods of diagnosing a pathology characterized by an
increased or decreased level of a CARD-containing
polypeptide.